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JD Class of 2025, Fordham Law

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EDUCATION:

PhD in Sociology (2000), University of Bucharest, Romania

Masters of Social Work (1997), School of Social Work, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA

Masters in Social Policy (1995), School of Sociology, Pedagogy, and Social Work, University of Bucharest, Romania

Bachelor of Social Work (1994), School of Sociology, Pedagogy, and Social Work, University of Bucharest, Romania

WORK EXPERIENCE:

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Fordham University, Graduate School of Social Service, New York, NY (2006 - present)

Promoted to Full Professor – February 15, 2022

Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI (2000-2006)

Associate Professor, Social Work Department

Director of MSA: Community and International Development Program, Department of Behavioral Sciences (2001-2006)

University of Bucharest, Romania (1995-2000)

Assistant Professor of Social Work (1998-2000)

Instructor (1995-1998)

CONSULTANCY AND EVALUATION

UNICEF Special Representative Office, Bucharest, Romania (1995-1996; 1998-2000)

Consultant on policies and programs for domestic violence and child abuse

Collaborator in Child Protection and Family Education programs – consulting for the training components of the program (1995-1996);

Evaluator of the Social Protection System in Romania, under the auspices of the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (1999-2000)

UNITED NATIONS (UN) SERVICE

UN NGO Committee on Migration (2017-present)

Board Member (2019-present)

AWARDS:

Immigration Justice Fellow (2023). Feerick Justice Center, Fordham Law School.

Crowley Human Rights Fellow (2022-2023), Leitner Center, Fordham Law School.

Social Innovation Research Fellow, Fordham University (2019-2020). *Innovative Paths to Successful Integration for Asylum Seekers and Refugees in NYC: Bridging the Gaps in Higher Education Institutions.*

Fulbright Specialist (2018-2023): Program development focusing on forced migration. Management Center of Innsbruck, Austria

Fulbright Senior Scholar (September 2016-February 2017) – Management Center of Innsbruck, Austria.

Study of migration policies and their impact on forced migrants in general and on women asylum seekers and refugees in particular, in Europe.

SCHOLARSHIP/RESEARCH

PUBLICATIONS

Edited journals

Popescu, M. & Libal, K. (eds.), (2018/Spring)– *Advances in Social Work*, 18 (3) - Special Issue on *Migrants and Refugees*.

Popescu, M. & Libal, K. (2018). Social work with migrants and refugees: Challenges, best practices and future directions (Editorial). *Advances in Social Work*, 18(3), p. i-x.

Selected Refereed Journal Articles

Popescu, M., & Alonzo, D. (2023). Shattered or strengthened? The impact of extended lockdown on family functioning and quality of relationships during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Global Journal of Health Science*, 15 (3), 43:58.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M.,** & Zubaroglu, P. (2023). When Will Life Return to Normal? Parental Mental Health Post Quarantine and Extended Lockdown. *European Psychiatry*, 66(S1), S319-S320.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M.,** Zubaroglu, P. (2023). We are all in it together! Effects of Covid on Interpersonal Relationships. *Global Journal of Psychology Research: New Trends and Issues*, 13(1):63-77.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M.,** & Zubaroglu–Ioannides, P. (2022). Relieving Pandemic-Related Psychological Distress: Key Protective Factors Against Mental Health Impairment. *J Ment Health Soc Behav*, 4(2), 170.

Popescu, M., Oren, T., & Tripathy, S. (2022). Countering Unrecognition and Exclusion of Asylum Seekers from Higher Education: A Call to Action. *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*, 26 (2). 165:180.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M.,** Zubaroglu, P. (2022). Long-term impact and implications of the COVID pandemic on mental health. *Global Journal of Psychology Research: New Trends and Issues*; 12(2), 87-100

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M.,** & Zubaroglu-Ioannides, P. (2022). The current pandemic, a complex emergency? Mental health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on highly vulnerable communities in Guatemala. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 68(7), 1382-1393.

Alonzo, D., & **Popescu, M.** (2022). A qualitative examination of the mental health impact of Covid-19 in marginalized communities in Guatemala: The Covid Care Calls survey. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 68(7), 1435-1444.

Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M.,** & Zubaroglu Ioannides, P. (2022). Mental health impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on parents in high-risk, low income communities. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 68(3), 575-581.

- Popescu, M.** & Alonzo, D. ((2021). Creating SPACE: A conceptual framework for rights-based international social work and social development. *Advances in Social Work*, 21 (4), 1064:1082. DOI: 10.18060/25090
- Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M.** (2021) Qualitative Examination of the Mental Health Impact of Quarantine During the Covid-19 Pandemic. *International Journal of Mental Health*.
- Libal, K., Harding, S., **Popescu, M.**, Berthold, M., & Felten, G. (2021). Human rights of forced migrants in the context of the Coronavirus pandemic: An opportunity for mobilization and solidarity. *Journal of Human Rights and Social Work*.
- Alonzo, D., **Popescu, M.**, Zubaroglu, P. (2021) The Current pandemic, a complex emergency? Mental health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and extended quarantine periods on highly vulnerable communities in Guatemala. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry (In press)*
- Popescu, M.**, Zubaroglu-Ioanides, P., and Turin, S. (2020). Whose citizens, what rights? Roles and responsibilities in addressing displacement and forced migration in Haiti. *Journal of Human Rights and Social Work*, 1:14, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41134-019-00114-z>
- Popescu, M.**, Strand, V., Way, I., Williams-Hecksel, C. & Abramovitz, R. (2017). Building a trauma-informed workforce capacity and legacy. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*, 37 (1), pp. 36-54
- Popescu, M.**, Drumm, R., Dewan, S., & Rusu, C. (2010). Childhood Victimization and its Impact on Coping Behaviors for Victims of Intimate Partner Violence. *Journal of Family Violence*, 25 (6), 575:585
- Popescu, M.**, Luca-Sugawara, C., Hernandez, E., & Dewan, S. (2010). Can Government Funding Strengthen the Third Sector? The Impact of a Capacity Building Program on Faith-Based and Community-Based Organizations. *Social Work Review/Revista de Asistentia Sociala*, 4, 83:101
- Popescu, M.**, Drumm, R., Meyer, S., Cooper, L., Foster, T., Seifert, M., Gadd, H., & Dewan, S. (2009). “Because of my beliefs that I had acquired from the church...”: Religious Belief-based Barriers for Adventist Women in Domestic Violence Relationships. *Social Work & Christianity*, 36 (4), 394: 414
- Drumm, R., **Popescu, M.**, & Riggs, M.L. (2009). Gender Variation in Partner Abuse: Findings from a Conservative Christian Denomination. *Affilia: Journal of Women & Social Work*, 24 (1), 56-68
- Popescu, M.** & Drumm, R. (2008), Spirituality: A Healing Tool or an Aggravating Factor? Domestic Violence in Faith Communities. *Social Work Journal*, 74 (8), Santiago, Chile: Escuela de Trabajo Social, 83-94

Selected Book Chapters

- Popescu, M.**, Brownell, P., and Pyatetskaya, T. (2022). Violence against all women and girls, across the lifespan. In *Behavioral Science and Health in the Global Arena: Global Mental, Spiritual, and Social Health* (Eds. Elaine Congress, Dalton Meister, Shenae Osborn & Harold Takooshian). Information Age Publishing. 149-165.
- Popescu, M. (2019).** Migration Policies in Europe and the US: Securitization, Safety, and the Paradox of Human Rights (Chapter 5). In *Refugees and Asylum-Seekers: Interdisciplinary and Comparative Perspectives*. (Eds. Libal, K., and Berthold, M.), Praeger, 100:127
- Popescu, M. (2019).** Migration Policies in Europe and the US: Securitization, Safety, and the Paradox of Human Rights (Chapter 5). In *Refugees and Asylum-Seekers: Interdisciplinary and Comparative Perspectives*. (Eds. Libal, K., and Berthold, M.), Praeger, 100:127

Popescu, M. & Strand, V. (2018). Trauma-Informed Organizational Readiness Assessment (Chapter 15). In *Trauma-Informed Child Welfare Systems* (eds. Strand, V. & Sprang, G.), Springer, Inc.

SELECTED FUNDED RESEARCH

Grants:

Principal Investigator (January 1-December 31, 2023). *Her Migrant Hub (HMH): A participatory approach to increasing access to health and mental health care for women asylum seekers in NYC*. With Dr. Alonzo (Co-PI). External funding: Mother Cabrini Health Foundation.

Principal Investigator (September 15, 2022-September 15 2024). Developing a best practice model for social workers working with asylum seekers and other forced migrants. With Dr. Alonzo (Co-PI). In partnership with Catholic Charities NYC, and Emma's Torch. External funding: New York Community Trust Fund.

Principal Investigator (January 1-December 31, 2022). *Health and mental health care for women asylum seekers in NYC: Innovative paths to increase access and utilization of services (Round 2)*. With Dr. Alonzo (Co-PI). External funding: Mother Cabrini Health Foundation

Principal Investigator (January 1-December 31, 2021). *Health and mental health care for women asylum seekers in NYC: Innovative paths to increase access and utilization of services*. With Dr. Alonzo (Co-PI). External funding: Mother Cabrini Health Foundation

Co-Principal Investigator, with Dr. Alonzo (February-July, 2021). *Guatemala Covid Care Calls (CCC) – Follow-up Project: A one-year follow up project focusing on long-term impact of the pandemic and the extended quarantine periods on high risk, low-income communities in Guatemala*. External funding: International Social Work Solutions

Principal Investigator. (March – June, 2021). *The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Highly Vulnerable Communities in Guatemala: A follow-up study*. Internal funding: GSS – Faculty Research Development Fund

Principal Investigator (July 2015 – June 2016). *Relocation strategies: Effectiveness and Current needs of border refugees in Haiti*. Community assessment in refugee camps at the Haitian border, mapping relocation strategies. Internal funding: Fordham University, Faculty Research Grant

Principal Investigator (April – August 2013). *Relocation of Displaced Population Groups in Haiti – A follow-up Study*. Focused on 283 families relocated out of the Pinchinat IDP Camp in Jacmel, Port-Au-Prince. Internal funding: GSS Faculty Research Development Fund. Findings have been presented at the conference organized by Dr. Popescu, in collaboration with the McGannon Lecture, and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Haiti: Post-Disaster Reconstruction, Sustainability And Development Conference (November 15-16, 2013).

PRESENTATIONS

Invited presentations on international topics

April 28, 2021 - *Reclaiming the RIGHT to have rights: Status recognition and implications for undocumented migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees*. Invited presentation: Interdisciplinary Research Forum on Immigration and Anti-racism, Fordham Strategic Research Consortium on Global Studies.

April 8, 2021 - *The COVID-19 pandemic: A complex emergency for women with lived experiences of forced migration*. Invited presentation. UN-NGO Committee on Mental Health.

June 19, 2020 - *A complex emergency: Women on the move in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic*. Invited presentation presented at The Time for Gender Equality is NOW! Virtual International Health

Awareness Network (IHAN) at the UN Commission on the Status of Women Annual Conference parallel event.

April 30, 2020 - *Forced migration in the context of the Pandemic: Implications for the Rights of Migrants*. UN-NGO Committee on Mental Health (webinar).

March 20, 2018 - *Global Compact on Refugees: Local Implications*. Presented at Saarland University, Center of American Studies, Saarbruecken, Germany.

November 2, 2017 - **Keynote speaker** at the IHAN, IWG, and UN Conference, *Health and the Sustainable Development Goals: The international community's response to challenges facing refugees and forced migrants*.

April 20, 2017 - **Keynote speaker** at Fordham Alumni Association Event – *Migration Policies in Europe and Beyond: Safety, Security, and the Paradoxes of Human Rights*.

January 10, 2017 - **Keynote Speaker** at *Forced Migration and Global Citizenship in Social Care Practice Today*, organized by Anglia Ruskin University

2013, April 7th: Immigration reform: from dreams to reality (organized by Fordham GSS, Continuing Education Department). Presentation: Immigration policies and the treatment of women in immigration detention centers.

2013, March 9th: Eliminating all forms of violence against women of all ages – a parallel event part of the 57th anniversary of the Commission on the Status of Women* – Presentation: *Immigration and Violence Against Women* (*Dr. Popescu was also one of the organizers of the event.)

2012, March 3rd: Women's Symposium – a parallel event part of the 56th anniversary of the Commission on the Status of Women – Presentation: *Lessons from the Field – Women's Stories from Victimization to Empowerment; The role of social work in building capacity and creating safe communities for women in rural areas*.